

# KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base  
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Thursday, Oct. 13, 2005

Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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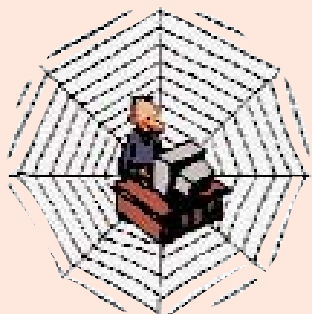
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Keesler News on Web:  
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, Airman Chris Blowe and Airmen Basic David Palmiter and Joseph Page clear debris Oct. 4 from a home-site ravaged by Hurricane Katrina on Racetrack Road in Biloxi. Airmen Blowe and Palmiter are from the 338th Training Squadron. Airman Page is assigned to the 334th TRS.

## Base major player in coast recovery from hurricane

### Volunteers assist in cities from Biloxi to Gautier

By Senior Airman  
Sarah Stegman

Keesler News staff

Keesler is playing a growing role in the Mississippi Gulf Coast's recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

Last week, Airmen volunteers went on community assistance missions to D'Iberville, Gautier, Biloxi and Ocean Springs.

On Oct. 4, about 40 Airmen went to Langley Point in D'Iberville. Another 20 bluesuiters traveled to the Old House in Gautier that day. Friday, 190 base volunteers descended on an east Biloxi neighborhood.

Earlier, Keesler members assisted the American Red Cross in preparing checks for hurricane victims at the Joppa Temple Shrine in Woolmarket.

At Langley Point, Airmen

cleared massive amounts of debris from eight residential lots.

"The homes on each of the lots were totally destroyed and strewn roughly an acre on each lot," said Airman 1st Class Aaron Eden, base volunteer operations center. "The Airmen piled shingles, timber, drywall, branches, housing goods and other debris on each lot to be cleaned with heavy equipment."

The group also helped residents locate personal belongings that had been blown from their lots by Katrina's 130-mph winds or washed away by the two-story storm surge.

The Old House team went to Gautier in response to a request from the Pascagoula Chamber of Commerce. The team cleaned and piled up all

Please see **Volunteers**, Page 9

## Air Force works Katrina reimbursement issues

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In a recent memorandum, defense officials named the Air Force as the executive agent for Hurricane Katrina funding.

As the executive agent, Air Force officials ensure services within the Department of Defense are reimbursed for expenses incurred while providing

Hurricane Katrina relief support, said John Vonglis, acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial management and comptroller.

"It is financial management oversight for the reimbursable phase of Katrina," Mr. Vonglis said. "When we do work as a department for the benefit of the victims of Katrina, we have to get reimbursed for it. (We) would then have to seek out those funds from the Federal Emergency

Management Agency or the Department of Homeland Security, or whoever is going to provide those funds.

"When FEMA tasks a DOD organization to perform a mission, reimbursable agreements need to be put in place, costs tracked and FEMA must be billed," Mr. Vonglis added. "As executive agent, we are ensuring those processes are in place

Please see **Funding**, Page 9



# COMMENTARY

## Be proud of job Air Force is doing to protect America

By Gen. Michael Moseley

Air Force chief of staff

To the Airmen of the Air Force, we're a nation at war.

We've been fighting Operation Enduring Freedom more than 1,400 days. World War II lasted 1,347 days. We've been fighting the Global War on Terror for more than two years longer than World War II.

From the day Desert Storm kicked off, Jan. 17, 1991, the Air Force has been in continuous combat. For 14 years, our enemies have shot at us and for 14 years we've returned the favor. But no matter how long the road, we must never lose our focus on winning this fight.

Today, we're engaged more than ever ... from across the globe to here at home. From taking the fight to the enemy in Iraq, to rebuilding lives in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, to controlling satellites on the other side of the world, to fighting forest fires in the Rockies, to patrolling the skies over America — you can be proud of the work your Air Force is doing to protect our country. I'm incredibly proud to be a member of an Air Force family that has more than 106,000 Airmen assigned or deployed in 64 countries, on every continent, and in every time zone throughout the world.

We've handled each and every task brought before us with lethal efficiency because of you. It's an honor to work and fight alongside you in service to our republic.

The 684,000 active, Reserve, Guard, and civilians of the Air Force are truly a total force. We stand alongside our Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine brethren ready to answer the nation's call. We fight together. We triumph together. Our promise to the joint team is that as Airmen we'll always be the best in the world at what we do: dominating air and space from one inch above the ground to 100,000 miles above the earth.

Today, we have three major challenges facing our Air Force. First and foremost is accomplishing the combatant tasks the president and secretary of defense assign. The tasks are some we've done before and some we've never undertaken. Second, we must preserve that which makes us the most feared air force in the world — our people. Our culture of excellence must continue to develop Airmen who are the most adaptable, most skilled, most professional and most lethal the world has ever known.

Third, we face the difficult task of operating the oldest inventory in the history of the Air Force. My senior leadership will work to break this vicious cycle. I need you, our Airmen on the line, to continue making the mission happen.

As we work towards a more secure, more peaceful tomorrow, look around. Behind us you'll see a proud, rich heritage. In front of us is a limitless horizon. So let's push it up, go to work and make the mission happen.

## ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. William Lord

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

### No time for talking

**Comment** — I drive a school bus on base. Recently, I stopped on 6th Avenue to discharge the children from the bus. A woman talking on her cell phone pulled up to the school bus stop sign, then drove through the stop sign still talking on her cell phone.

The issue of people talking on cell phones while driving needs to be looked into before someone is hurt.

**Response** — According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about 8 percent of all drivers are talking on a cell phone at any given moment.

Mississippi has no restrictions on cell phone use while driving. However, the Department of Defense is also looking into prohibiting cell phone use other than hands-free devices while driving on military installations.

Meanwhile, we continue our efforts to educate our people about the hazards of driving while distracted. Folks should focus all their attention on driving.

When you witness any traffic violation, obtain as much information as possible and report it to the 81st Security Forces Squadron, 377-3040.

**If you witness  
or suspect  
fraud, waste or abuse,  
report it to the  
81st Training Wing  
inspector general,  
377-7053.**



# Keesler News

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2004, 1998, 1996;

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# TRAINING AND EDUCATION

## CLEP testing saves college students their time, money

By Senior Airman  
Christian Michael

### 1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LANGLEY Air Force Base, Va. — There's a way for Airmen to earn their degrees using knowledge from work and personal study, while saving money and shortening time spent in classes.

The College Level Examination Program and the Excelsior examination program are available to service members in pursuit of a college degree.

These programs save students time, money and encompass a large variety of courses.

### Demand is high

They are in high demand because they can eliminate general course credits. While military education does cover some general education requirements, it doesn't cover or is not accredited in class like English composition, mathematics, natural science, social science, history and humanities.

However, CLEP general exams cover most first-year level college work, according to Rozzie Lovett, the education services officer at the Langley Education Center here.

### Variety of fields

CLEP subject exams usually cover a wide range and variety of subjects and fields which can be applied toward higher-level requirements. The examination program, along with Excelsior exams, also cover subjects that are more specific to degree programs, though they usually don't exceed second-year college level exams.

Except for specialized exams, such as speech, which

requires a taped impromptu speech, most exams are uniform in nature.

"The CLEP general examinations are timed and multiple choice; the subject exams are timed also, but are not multiple choice," Mrs. Lovett said. "Test results are usually received at the education center three to six weeks after the test date."

### Many benefits

There are many benefits to taking CLEP exams, she said. It saves students and the government money; students don't have to pay for school time, books, gas or living costs that can build up while attending school.

Passed exams have saved the government more than \$300,000 in the past year in class costs and other fees, Mrs. Lovett said. That doesn't include how much money students have saved paying for the courses.

CLEP and Excelsior exams are free for active-duty military members, free or a minimal cost to reservists and guardsmen, and are relatively inexpensive for dependents and retirees. On top of the low cost and convenience, there are great benefits for the CLEP exams that keep students coming back.

### Failure a setback

"Students can take as many CLEPs as they want in any period of time," said Mrs. Lovett. "If they fail one, however, they cannot retake the exact same test for another six months."

For more information on military education programs, visit the base education office, Room 212, old Cody Hall, or call 377-2323.

## Tour for top trainer



Photo by Michelle Freeck

Tech. Sgt. James McAnelly, left, a command and control instructor in the 334th Training Squadron, and Airman Basic Vincent St. Onge, one of his students, are visited by Col. Deborah Van De Ven, new commander of the 81st Training Group. Colonel Van De Ven, who assumed command Sept. 30 from Col. Jessie Canaday, comes to Keesler from the Pentagon, where she was chief of regional support operations for the Joint Staff. After seven years as an enlisted aerospace control and warning systems officer, the colonel was commissioned through Officer Training School in 1981. Colonel Canaday, who served as the 81st TRG commander since June 2003, retired with 26 years of military service.

**Are you the victim of a sexual assault?  
There's support available,  
24 hours a day, seven days a week, through  
Keesler's sexual assault response coordinator,  
377-7278.**

# Air War College revises non-resident course

AETC News Service

MAXWELL Air Force Base, Ala. — The Air War College is revising its nonresident studies course to increase its relevancy for Air Force officers preparing for senior leadership.

It also been significantly updated to ensure the curriculum's currency. The college launches the revised course in January 2006.

This year's nonresident program revision reflects a nearly total content refresh to mirror recent changes in the Air War College resident

course. The resident course was significantly revised this year to meet Joint Professional Military Education Phase II requirements and place greater focus on developing strategic leader skills required of operational military leaders in joint, interagency and coalition environments. Officials cautioned that the Air Force is authorized to award Joint PME Phase II credit only to resident course graduates.

According to Air War College officials, the nonresident program continues to

emphasize development of the knowledge, skills and attributes required of all Air Force senior officers, but with special focus on their application to large organization and institutional leadership responsibilities.

They further noted that because of structural changes in the design of the course modules, only elective credit can be transferred from the existing program to the revised program. The core program of the current non-resident course isn't compatible

with the revised core program.

Officials strongly recommend that unless Air Force members need to complete AWC before the fall 2006 promotion boards, potential AWC nonresident course students should wait to enroll in the revised program to take advantage of its more relevant and current curriculum. The current program ends Dec. 1, 2006.

To ensure sufficient time to complete the curriculum by that time, the college is no longer accepting new enroll-

ments in the existing program.

Officials summarized the program changes:

**Students enrolled** in the current program must complete all requirements for graduation by Dec. 1, 2006.

**Previously enrolled students** with retained credit are still allowed to re-enroll after Oct. 1, but they must complete all remaining requirements for graduation no later than Dec. 1, 2006.

**Only elective credit** can be transferred from the current program to the revised program.



# TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

## PME testing

Professional military education testing is available in Room 118, Airman Leadership School.

To schedule the test, visit Room 212, old Cody Hall, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Graduation deadline

Saturday is the deadline for William Carey College students who plan to graduate in May to file applications for graduation.

Winter registration is Monday through Nov. 28. For more information, call 377-0090, or visit Room 208, old Cody Hall.

## Civilian tuition aid

College tuition assistance is available for permanent civil service employees assigned to Keesler.

Courses must be mission (job) related and taken through a regionally accredited college or university.

For more information, call or visit the education office, 377-2323, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

## Troops to Teachers

For general information on Troops to Teachers, visit <http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt/index2.htm>.

For information on Mississippi Troops to Teachers, call Chris Carey, 1-800-MISS-TEACH.

## Tuition aid online

Air Force members can now request tuition assistance online.

Members can now accomplish this request directly from their workstation through the Air Force Virtual Education Center.

AFVEC may be accessed through the Web site, <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> or through the Air Force Portal. Members are required to log on through the Air Force Portal using the portal's reduced sign-on technology. New "My AFVEC" users are required to create an account.

Upon successful registration, Air Force members can select the "Request TA" option to begin the process of requesting tuition assistance. In addition, a PowerPoint tutorial has been made available

in this section to provide instructions on how to process an online TA application.

It's important that members know and enter basic course registration information in the online TA request.

## Physical therapy class

Applications are accepted through Nov. 25 at the Air Force Personnel Center for the doctor of physical therapy program.

The class begins Dec. 17 at the Health Sciences Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Ravin McCray, 377-9630.

## Physician assistants

Phase I physician assistant training classes begin in January, April and August 2007.

Completed applications must be sent by military personnel flights and arrive by Jan. 27 at HQ AFPC/DPAMW, 550 C Street West, Suite 27, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4729.

For more information, call the military personnel flight or education office or visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/medical/BSC/Education/PAapplication.htm>.



# NEWS AND FEATURES

## Balanced scorecard New measurement system helps propel strategies into action

By Megan Orton

### AETC Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Since taking command of Air Education and Training Command in June, Gen. William Looney III has worked to build and improve the command.

One significant change is the implementation of the balanced scorecard strategic measurement system.

Balanced scorecard is a strategic planning device designed to put strategy into action in a management system. Its implementation has been targeted by the Department of Defense for all services since December 2002.

### AETC follows suit

It was adopted by General Looney's last two commands within Air Force Material Command, and now AETC is following suit.

The starting point for AETC's balanced scorecard was a "strawman" from General Looney. Then facilitators from RTS Partners interviewed AETC's senior leaders to find out what they consider most important to the command. Then an outline of the command's scorecard was constructed and compared with General Looney's strawman scorecard.

### From models to map

At a four-day workshop, AETC senior leaders combined the two models into the dynamic map that is being used to monitor the command's progress. The map is designed to work from the bottom up, eventually peaking at the command's mission and vision perspectives.

"Developing and supporting our people" is the foundation to three "operational drivers," that AETC leaders



"Recruiting,  
educating  
and training  
are all  
intermingled  
... we have to  
figure out  
how to tie them  
together better."

— General Larsen

feel are vital to accomplishing the command's mission — recruiting, educating and training the force.

"Our big problem in AETC is that we look at it as three stovepipes, but it isn't; recruiting, educating and training are all intermingled," said Lt. Gen. Dennis Larsen, AETC vice commander. "All of them are really a continuum from recruitment until an Airman's last bit of education that they get, and we have to figure out how to tie them together better."

Each operational driver has strategic objectives, and each of the 18 objectives is assigned

one or two measures, which AETC is working on now.

"It is easy to talk about aspirations, but if you know how to measure it, then the purpose of it becomes real," said Robert Anderson, RTS Partners senior consultant and facilitator for AETC's balanced scorecard tasking.

As all goals within the operational drivers are met, the mission is achieved.

### Quick assessments

"Our headquarters will be able to look at every single one of the objectives, and in a relatively short amount of time, we'll have a good feeling of what's going on across our command and whether all of our units out there understand what our strategy is," General Larsen said.

By next spring, a process called "cascading" disseminates AETC balanced scorecard goals to its subordinate organizations. The numbered air forces, and eventually the wings, will configure their own scorecards to support the strategy map AETC creates.

"The vision for this plan is to develop a strategy that everybody in AETC can understand, so everybody in AETC knows what their piece to supporting that strategic plan is," General Larsen said.

### Fitting into the plan

He said balanced scorecard allows everyone down the chain of command to know what General Looney is focusing on, and what he thinks is important to AETC. At a local level, the job of the individual Airman is to try and fit into that strategic plan.

"This is a good deal for the Air Force, not only AETC," General Larsen said. "It's about being able to give the Air Force the right products — the right Airmen, trained properly."

## IN THE NEWS

### Services for Katrina victim

William Gibson, an 81st Services Division civilian employee, died of complications related to exposure to the flood waters of Hurricane Katrina.

His funeral is 1 p.m. today at the Faith Tabernacle of Praise Church in Biloxi, followed by burial at 3 p.m. in Biloxi National Cemetery.

Mr. Gibson, 64, is survived by his wife Shirley, sons Alonxo and William, and daughter Jennifer.

### Town hall meeting

A town hall meeting is 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Welch Auditorium.

### Airman killed in Iraq

#### Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Jacobson, 21, is the first female Airman killed in the line of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

She died when an improvised explosive device exploded Sept. 28 during a convoy mission.

The Riviera Beach, Fla., native was assigned to the 17th Security Forces Squadron, Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. She'd been in the Air Force for two years and had been deployed to Iraq for more than three months.

### Death notification

The death of Lt. Col. Marc Murphy, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, is announced by Brig. Gen. James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander.

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of Colonel Murphy, call Lt. Col. Kevin Blakeley, summary court officer, 377-8485.

### Lawyer, paralegal sentenced

#### Air Force Print News

LACKLAND Air Force Base, Texas — Capt. Barry Brown was sentenced to 18 years in prison after pleading guilty to attempted premeditated murder, conspiracy to commit premeditated murder and violating a lawful general regulation by wrongful fraternization.

Captain Brown, a lawyer assigned to the 37th Training Wing here, pleaded guilty to all charges Sept. 13. He was dismissed from the Air Force and loses all military benefits.

Staff Sgt. Ramona Greiner, a paralegal in his office, pleaded guilty to similar charges Sept. 20 and was sentenced to 12 years in prison, demotion to the lowest enlisted rank and a dishonorable discharge.

According to the charges, their relationship led to hiring someone to kill Captain Brown's wife.

### TDY travel for PCS reinstated

Permanent change-of-station temporary duty travel for colonels and their dependents with assignments to Keesler has been reinstated by Brig. Gen. William Lord, 81st Training Wing commander.

Before proceeding or for more information, affected colonels should call the Air Force Senior Leader Management Office, DSN 664-8126.



# Keesler gains 13 captains by promotion

By Senior Airman  
Sarah Stegman

Keesler News staff

Thirteen Keesler first lieutenants were chosen for promotion to captain.

Air Force-wide, more than 3,000 first lieutenants were considered this year and 2,990 were selected for a 99.5 percent selection rate.

Keesler's new captains are:  
**333rd Training Squadron** — Scott Brenneman and Eric Rudolph.

**334th TRS** — David Clontz.

**335th TRS** — Todd Domachowski and Schavonne Fludd.

**338th TRS** — Eric Christy.

**81st Comptroller Squadron** — Jeffrey Smith.

**81st Medical Support Squadron** — Todd Del Tufo and Brian Mix.

**81st Mission Support Group** — Matthew Ochoa.

**81st Security Forces Squadron** — James Pierce.

**81st Surgical Operations Squadron** — Courtney Wallace.

**81st Training Wing** — Louis Eldredge.



**Airman Walter Wood, 338th Training Squadron, shovels debris into a wheelbarrow Oct. 4 on Langley Point in Biloxi. He's clearing the site of a home destroyed by Hurricane Katrina for the placement of a mobile home as a temporary housing unit for the residents.**

Photo by Kemberly Groue

## Volunteers,

from Page 1

the debris in the area, filling three truckloads at the historical site which was used for meetings, picnics and weddings.

The Gautier group then split into two smaller teams and worked at distribution centers in Ocean Springs. One group worked at St. Paul's Methodist Church on

Highway 90 at the east end of the city. The church serves as both the Jackson County Community Operations Center and a distribution point for aid to hurricane victims. The other Airmen worked at the distribution center on Government Street near downtown. They also assisted with cleanup operations along Government.

"We are obviously putting the core values first, by literally putting service before self into our adopted community, as well as letting the commu-

nity see that we're not just standing idly by," Airman Eden said.

The largest group of volunteers teamed up with Hands on USA, a nonprofit group, in the hard-hit Division Street area of Biloxi. The combined team gutted and cleaned more than 10 homes and cleared 20 front yards in just seven hours.

"Our volunteers all had the day we hope they have every day. They were effective in making a positive impact, they had fun doing it and they reached out into a community

to let the people know they care," said Darius Monsef, Hands on USA operations director, in a letter to the volunteers from Keesler.

Hands on USA assists with disaster response and relief by providing tree and debris removal, home and small business cleanup, temporary roofing installation, animal shelter assistance and on-site medical care and inoculations.

To volunteer for upcoming off-base community relief missions, call the volunteer operations center, 377-8342.

## Funding,

from Page 1

and sound financial practices are followed.

"We are mostly trying to act as a clearing house for the departments that go through one focal point, and that focal point is the Air Force," Mr. Vonglis said.

It's expected the Air Force, as executive agent, will recoup as much as \$1.6 billion back into the DOD.

The fact the Air Force was chosen to act as executive agent for that funding is a positive reflection of the service and the quality of the work it can provide, Mr. Vonglis said.



**U.S. AIR FORCE**  
**EagleEyes**  
**WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.**



# PERSONNEL NOTES

**Editor's note:** This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

## Reset passwords online

**Air Force Personnel Center**

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — People who forget their passwords to personnel center customer service Web applications like the virtual Military Personnel Flight and Civilian Employment Application can reset a password on their own within seconds online.

First-time users need basic personal information, including civilian service computation date, or pay date for military. Common access card users can create an account using the security "certificates" on the card and the card reader.

To access the vMPF or other online personnel resources, visit <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>.

## One-stop pay, personnel service

One-stop customer service for pay and personnel information is available all day, every day by calling toll-free 1-800-616-3775 or online at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst/>.

## Long-term care insurance

For information on the long-term care insurance program and how to enroll, go online to <http://www.ltcfeds.com> or call 1-800-582-3337 or TDD 1-800-843-3557, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

## Sexual harassment hotline

The Air Force wants military and civilian employees to remain aware of the service's sexual harassment hotline.

The Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, operates the hotline to receive sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination inquiries. The numbers are 1-800-558-1404, DSN 665-2949, or commercial 1-210-565-2949.

An AFPC call center representative answers each call to the hotline. Callers with a sexual harassment or discrimination concern are forwarded to a qualified military equal opportunity counselor.

Counselors ensure callers understand the avenues available to them and complaints are channeled to the proper authority. Counselors take calls during normal duty hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CDT.

After normal duty hours, voice mail is available to leave messages for emergencies.

## Temporary duty and test cycles

If members' temporary duty period begins before the testing cycle starts and extends beyond the end of the testing cycle, they should test at the TDY location if facilities are available and requirements permit.

Testing up to 10 days prior to the announced cycle is authorized for members TDY during the entire testing cycle who can't test at their TDY location.

Members who decline to test early when so directed are ineligible for promotion for the remainder of the test cycle.

For more information, see Air Force Instruction 36-2605, Air Force Military Personnel Testing System.

## Mailing care packages

**American Forces Press Service**

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency process mail for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. A letter takes seven to 14 days and a package 14-24 days.

For more information, call 1-800-275-8777 or visit <http://www.usps.com>.

# Medical services continue to grow at Keesler

## 81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The following medical services are now offered for Keesler members:

### First aid station

A first aid station, operated by the 81st Medical Operations Squadron for Keesler personnel, is open around the clock seven days a week in the clinical research laboratory, Building 404.

The station doesn't have emergency services. Anyone needing emergency care should call 911 or go to the nearest hospital.

Several medical clinics are located in the base dental clinic, Building 824. Hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Check-in is at the dental clinic desk. Appointment capability is still in development.

### Family practice clinic

The 81st MDOS family practice clinic is located in dental clinic Pod C. It serves active-duty, dependents, and Tricare Prime enrollees. Services include walk-in acute, uncomplicated illnesses, medication refills and minimal OB/GYN services. Case management and social worker services are now located in the family practice clinic.

### Internal medicine clinic

The 81st MDOS internal medicine clinic is located in Pod D. It serves active-duty, dependents, and Tricare Prime enrollees. Services include walk-in acute medical care of dependents and Prime enrollees. The staff provides limited evaluation and treatment of chronic medical illnesses, medical consultation and referral for select subspe-

cialty services such as cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology and nephrology. There are no allergy services at this time.

### Pediatric clinic

The 81st MDOS pediatric clinic is located in Pods G and H. It cares for Prime enrollees under age 18. The staff provides walk-in medical care of children. There are no well-baby or allergy services at this time.

### Immunization clinic

The 81st MDOS immunization clinic hasn't reopened yet.

### Flight surgeon office

The 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight surgeon office is located in Pod I. It serves active-duty flyers and their family members, providing urgent acute medical care, DNIF (duty not involving/including flying) paperwork, profiles and physical health assessments.

### Optometry services

The 81st AMDS Optometry services were scheduled to begin Friday in the flight surgeon office at the Mental Health clinic.

### Mental health

The 81st MDOS mental health clinic is located in Pod A. The staff provides urgent care behavioral interventions to Prime enrollees.

It includes life skills, exceptional family member program and alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment.

### Surgical services

The 81st Surgical Operations Squadron staff provides surgical consultation only at the CRL facility or medical clinic in the dental clinic as needed for diagnosis.

Only minimal acute treatment is available.

### Women's health clinic

The 81st MSGS women's health clinic provides services Monday through Friday on a walk-in basis. It's staffed by the squadron's obstetrics department in the family practice clinic in dental clinic Pod E. Pap smears for cervical cancer screening are expected soon.

### Dental services

The 81st Dental Squadron's dental clinic treats active-duty military dependents and retirees for dental emergencies.

The staff provides routine dental care for active-duty members only.

Eligible military members are encouraged to call the clinic, 377-3003, for an appointment.

### Triangle clinic

The 81st MDOS Triangle clinic in Bryan Hall provides acute/urgent nonprior-service students only. A full-time life skills provider is available at the Triangle clinic.

### Medical records

Medical records are located in the Don Wylie Auditorium at Keesler Medical Center, but currently are only available by physician request through the chief of medical staff.

## Blood sampling



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Shimkus, 81st Medical Support Squadron, processes a blood sample at the 81st Aerospace Medical Squadron's bioenvironmental engineering flight building. The blood donor center has moved to a temporary facility behind the bioengineering flight building on Fisher Street. The facility is used to process blood collected during blood drives while the new donor center at Arnold Medical Annex is being renovated. The renovation should be completed in January.

## New locations, assistance offered for Tricare patients

### By Capt. Victoria Elliott

#### 81st Medical Support Squadron

There are several new locations for Tricare assistance.

Beneficiary counseling assistance coordinator Carolyn James is now located at the dental clinic, room 69J, cell phone number 596-5931.

Humana Beneficiary Services representative Ann Larkin is also located at the dental clinic, Room 69J, cell phone number, 596-5931.

Pat Poling is located at the dental clinic front desk to provide Keesler medical/dental registration and eligibility.

Linda Davis is located at the Triangle clinic, 377-8428 for student Tricare issues.

For questions about Keesler Tricare concerns, call 377-3150.

For Humana Tricare questions, call 1-800-444-5445.

The Keesler pharmacy is

working with the Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, pharmacy and the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Biloxi to re-establish refill prescription services.

Patients in the local area can contact the Keesler pharmacy's automated prescription refill system, 377-6360, to order prescription refills.

Patients in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi can access the system by calling 1-800-443-6564.

Refill prescriptions are sent overnight to the Keesler pharmacy at the VA for pickup at Building 5, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Allow four days from activation to pickup.

Patients must present their current, valid military identification. Those picking up prescriptions for someone else must provide written authorization.



# Cluster mailboxes serve displaced residents

By Tech. Sgt. Francis Kelly

Keesler Public Affairs

True to its "We Deliver for You" motto, the U.S. Postal Service came through Oct. 5 for its Keesler customers with 36 cluster box units adjacent to the mailbag and Keesler Post Office, Building 3913.

"Each of these boxes contains 16 units, so we'll be able to accommodate 576 families," stated 2nd Lt. Shauna Crookshank, 81st Communications Squadron plans and implementation flight commander.

Although the boxes are primarily intended to accommodate Harrison Court and Oak Park housing area families, former Bay Ridge and Pinehaven residents who don't have a new address and don't want mail delivered to their former address, can apply for a box on a space-available basis by calling 377-2667.

Here are other available post-Katrina services.

## Air Force Aid Society

Information and assistance is available in Room 118, old Cody Hall.

The Air Force Aid Society has established a nationwide relief fund to help Air Force families affected by the hurricane. For credit card donations, call 1-703-607-3073 or 1-800-769-8951 or donate online at <http://www.afas.org>. Checks should be made out to Air Force Aid Society and reference the hurricane relief fund.

## American Red Cross

Any permanent party resident living in the Hurricane Katrina Disaster Area and not receiving subsistence-in-kind is entitled to a Hurricane Katrina check voucher.

To verify eligibility and determine entitlement amounts, call 1-800-975-7585.

## American Legion

Current American Legion members who are active-duty members or belong to the National Guard or Reserves impacted by Hurricane Katrina may qualify for cash grants up to \$1,500. Apply by phone, 1-800-433-3318, or

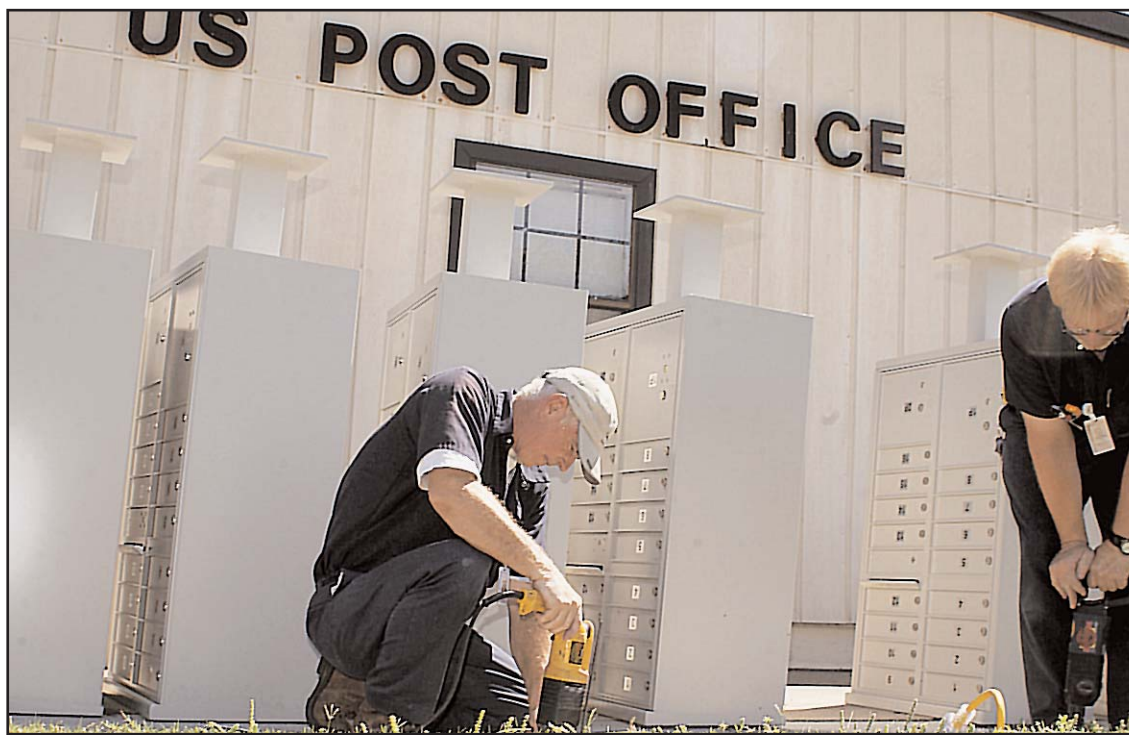


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Postal employees Doug Williams, left, and Joey Bullock install cluster box units adjacent to the post office Oct. 5.

online, <http://www.legion.org>.

## Area Defense Counsel

Keesler's office is now in Room 174, Thomson Hall. The office, an independent office of the Air Force Legal Services Agency, provides representation for investigations, administrative actions and discharges, nonjudicial punishment, courts-martial and other adverse actions.

For appointments, call 377-8029.

## AAFES

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is waiving interest and suspending monthly payments for an unspecified period to Exchange Credit Program cardholders displaced by Hurricane Katrina. A six-month no-interest, no-payment plan also applied to new purchases through Sept. 30, and \$500 credit limit increases are offered on accounts in good standing.

For more information or to update contact information, call 1-877-991-7827 or visit <http://www.aafes.com>.

## BAS

A Sept. 27 Department of Defense memo authorizes Airmen assigned to Keesler to

receive free meals without a reduction in their basic allowance for subsistence for 60 days to lessen financial hardship due to the hurricane.

## Clothing

Harrison County's clothing distribution headquarters, in a tent in the parking lot of the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

## Civilian assistance

The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund Emergency Assistance Program may provide assistance to federal civilian employees affected by Hurricane Katrina.

For more information, call Sheila Noel, 377-7973, or visit <http://www.feea.org/emergency.shtml>.

Civilians can also call 1-800-307-3298 or visit <http://www.opm.gov> to connect with department or agency contacts and obtain information on various benefits.

## Civilian counseling

Civilian employees and their families are eligible for six free post-hurricane counseling sessions.

For more information, call

Larry Williams, 377-4638.

## Extended child care

Military and civilians affected who are eligible for on-base day care and work more than 50 hours a week are eligible for free or subsidized child care under the Air Force's extended duty child care program.

For more information, call 377-3189 or 5935.

## Family support center

Offices are now located in old Cody Hall.

In Chapel 1, an annex is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays with clothing, food, baby and cleaning items for all ranks.

## Finance

The 81st Comptroller Squadron, second floor of the Vosler Center, is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. working Fridays. For military and travel pay questions, call 377-7272 or 4212.

## Food stamps

Residents of Hancock, Harrison, Jackson and Pearl River counties who received disaster relief food stamp cards are awarded additional funds Saturday. The amount

added to their food stamp card accounts equals the amount they originally received.

For more information, visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/>.

## Government travel card

The government travel card, for official travel expenses while in a travel status, isn't authorized for use here at Keesler.

Personnel who lost their card in the hurricane need to report the loss and request a new card immediately.

Dependents aren't authorized to use their members' card. They can get advances at the nearest base to the "safe haven" location. If there's no base nearby, work through the finance office at Keesler for advances or accruals.

The 90-day grace period for payment of government travel card accounts began Sept. 23.

People who used government travel cards for prepaid transactions that were not used as a result of Hurricane Katrina can dispute the charge for credit. Before filing a dispute, try to contact the merchant to see if charges can be credited to the account. If that isn't possible, submit the dispute form found at <https://www.gcsuthd.bankoramerica.com/forms/maintenance.asp>. Use reason code 10 for "other" and use your own words to reference Hurricane Katrina. To fax the form, call 1-888-678-6046.

## Income tax relief

The Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 postpones deadlines for affected taxpayers to file tax returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts until Feb. 28.

Some taxpayers receive automatic relief, while others need to identify themselves as being impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Taxpayers who need to identify themselves as hurricane victims should write "Hurricane Katrina" in red ink at the top of their tax forms or any other documents filed with the IRS.

Deadline postponement, interest suspension and waiver of

Please see **Assistance**, Page 13



# Assistance,

from Page 12

penalties apply to any tax return, payment or deposit with an original or extended due date falling on or after Aug. 29.

In Florida, where Katrina first hit, the date is on or after Aug. 24.

For victims of Hurricane Rita, deadlines are also extended to Feb. 28.

To alert the IRS, determine eligibility or for more information, call 1-866-562-5227.

## Leave transfer

Civilian employees may donate unused annual leave for transfer to other employees adversely affected by the hurricane so they won't have to use their own annual or sick leave. Up to 104 hours of leave can be donated, but it can't be contributed to a specific person.

Submit an Office of Personnel Management Form 1638 through the civilian personnel flight.

## Legal office

Aid is available 9 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. weekdays in Room 246, Levitow Training Support Facility.

A claims briefing is 10 a.m. daily, with filing from 8 a.m. to noon.

For appointments, call 377-3510. For Katrina claims, call 377-3630. The fax number is 377-3630.

## Natural disaster form

The Air Force Personnel Readiness Center has established a natural disaster registration form at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ndw>, where people can provide evacuation and safe haven information. For more information, call 1-800-435-9941.

## OneSource

Air Force OneSource offers 24/7 support and advice on how to tap into resources available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Air Force Aid Society and American Red Cross. Call 1-800-707-5784 or visit <http://www.airforceonesource.com>. Use "airforce" as user ID and "ready" as password.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Jackie Pope, left, assists Johnny Young in applying financial assistance related to Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Young is a retired Army master sergeant from Daphne, Ala. The retiree service center has relocated to Room 104, old Cody Hall.

## Personal finances

The personal financial management program is now located in old Cody Hall, Room 119. For more information, call 377-8601 or 2179.

## Personnel offices

The military personnel flight is now located in Room 218, old Cody Hall. The civilian personnel office has relocated to the Airman Leadership School building.

## Retirees, annuitants

The retiree activities center has moved from Thrower Park to Room 104, old Cody Hall.

Military retirees and annuitants who've relocated or changed banking information, call 1-800-321-1080, 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays. They can also use myPay to update information; call 1-800-390-2348. Changes to mailing and banking information can be sent by fax to 1-800-469-6559, with "Hurricane Katrina" at the top of the page and a contact phone number listed.

## Salvation Army

For assistance, visit <http://www.salvationarmyusa.org>.

## TMO

The traffic management office for technical training students in Room 211, Levitow Training Support Facility, is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call 377-0174, 1263, 7448 or 3147.

The main TMO has returned to Sablich Center, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Phone numbers are inbound personal property, 377-7813 or 7811, fax 377-9603; outbound counselors, 377-7815, 7817 or 7818, fax 377-7051; outbound documentation, 377-2326 or 2446, fax 377-7806; non-temporary storage, 377-7810, fax 377-7806; quality assurance, 377-9222, fax 377-4290; passenger travel, 377-2600; N&N Travel, 432-5825; TMO officer and administrative staff, 377-7825. Additional lines are being restored as soon as possible.

## Uniforms

Base supply is no longer issuing replacement uniforms and boots for people who incurred losses during the storm.



# Family child care now available

## Keesler services forge ahead in interim facilities

By Senior Airman  
Sarah Stegman

Keesler News staff

Family child care has five providers accepting children in their homes.

Space is available for five children under age 2, and seven children ages 3 and older.

Children are also being accepted at the mildly ill-family child care home.

For more information, call 377-3189. People interested in becoming licensed family child care providers, may contact the FCC office 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Other open base facilities include:

### AAFES

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service recently opened a home furnishings store, which carries furniture, appliances and TVs. The store is located at 220 Ploesti Drive with an entrance on Hercules Drive. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Military clothing sales, located in the mini-mall on Ploesti, is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

**Mini-mall** — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

**Seattle's Best Coffee** — 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the mini-mall.

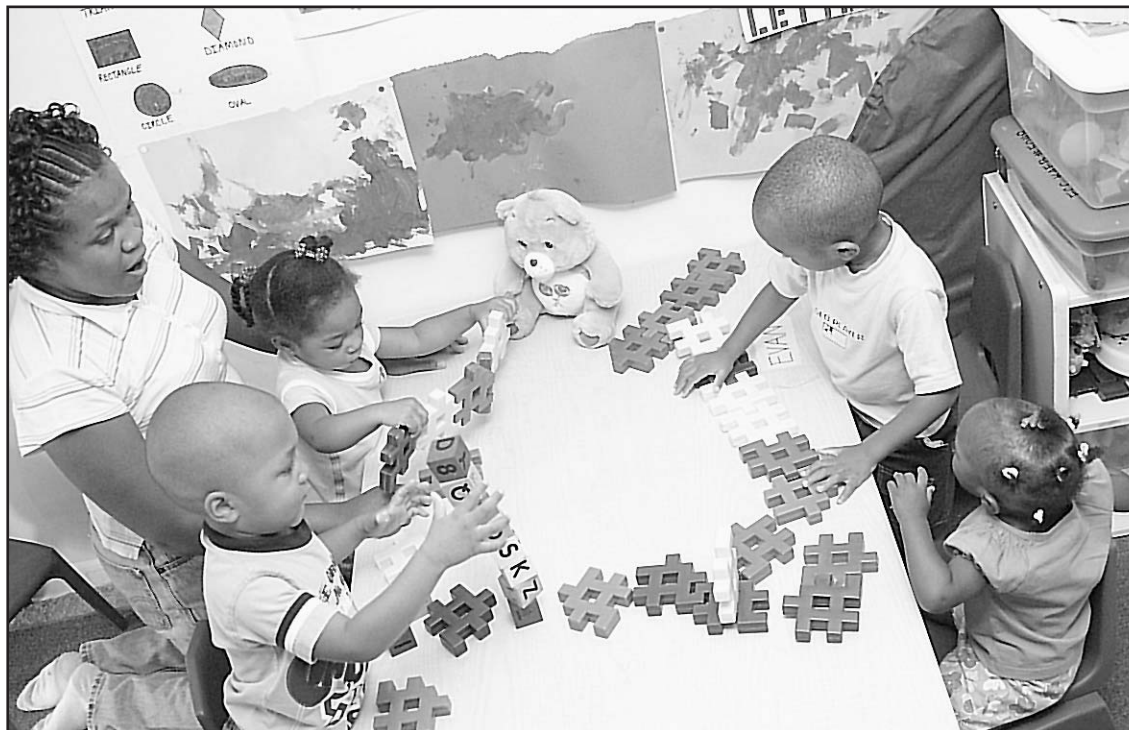
**Service station** — attended fueling 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Unattended fueling available 24 hours a day.

Service bays are open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Retail store hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

**Subway** — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
**Dawg Daze hot dog cart** — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Welch Auditorium** — Movies are shown 7 p.m. Friday; 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday.



Kesi Askew, top left, a family child care provider, watches her children, Cameron, 3, and Amaya, 1, and Evan, 2, and Khatia Yarbrough, 1, in her Pinehaven home. Mrs. Askew is the wife of Staff Sgt. Jerrionda Askew, 81st Transportation Squadron. Evan and Khatia's parents are Staff Sgt. Shanda Yarbrough, 81st TRANS, and Tech. Sgt. K. O'Neal Yarbrough, 81st Mission Support Squadron.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

**Triangle Barber Shop** — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Beauty shop** — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

**Triangle laundry and dry cleaners** — noon to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

**Triangle alteration shop** — noon to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

**At Ease embroidery/unit apparel** — noon to 7 p.m. daily.

**Czee Zone Internet Café** — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

The main exchange, dorm shoppette, Class Six/shoppette and medical center exchange are closed indefinitely.

### 81st Services Division

**Child development center** is now open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., but has a new priority system in place.

The first is dual and single military who are mission-essential. Priority two is mission-essential military with

civilian spouses who work at Keesler. The third priority is nonappropriated fund employees who can't come to work without child care and are considered mission essential.

Space is available at the CDC and for the preschool program.

For more information, call 377-2211.

**McBride Library** — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday and noon to 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday. A fax service and copy machine are available for a nominal fee; videos and DVD movies available and free Internet service available.

**Fam camp** — available for mission-essential active-duty, civilian and contractors, and non-mission essential active-duty who've been displaced. For more information, call 594-0543.

**Blake Fitness Center** — 4:30 a.m. to midnight daily. Aerobics classes are 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday,

Wednesday and Thursday.

**Inns of Keesler** — open 24 hours.

**Muse Manor mini-mart** — 7 a.m. to midnight daily.

**Vandenberg Community Center** — open for E-4 and below 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday.

Alcoholic beverages available 6-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

**Half Time Café** — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

**Auto skills center** — 1-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Car wash is open 24/7.

**Youth activities center** — 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. workdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Before and after school program is 6-8:30 a.m. and 3:30-6 p.m. for children in kindergarten through grade 6.

**Gaudé Lanes** — 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday; 3-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Open

to Keesler personnel and relief workers only.

**Katrina Kantina** — 5 p.m. to midnight Thursdays-Saturdays for E-5 and above in the main marina building.

Bay Breeze Golf Course, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers, arts and crafts center, the marina, Keesler Club, Warrior lounge, the information ticket and travel office and Keesler Community Center are closed.

### Dining facilities

**Live Oak** — breakfast 5:15-7:15 a.m., lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner 5-7 p.m.; closed on weekends and holidays.

**Pecan** — breakfast 5:15-7:45 a.m., lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner 5-7 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Weekend and holiday hours are: breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and dinner 4:30-6:30 p.m. Open for the 403rd Wing UTA 6:30-7:30 a.m. Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

**Azalea** — breakfast 4:15-7 a.m., lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner 5:30-7:30 p.m.; closed on weekends and holidays.

**Magnolia** — breakfast 4:15-6 a.m. lunch 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinner 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Weekend and holiday hours are: breakfast 7:30-9 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and dinner 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Flight kitchen** — open around the clock.

There is a charge for meals for people not on meal cards or government meal orders.

Spouses and dependent children of active-duty personnel E-1 through E-4 pay a la carte less the surcharge.

Personnel on temporary duty to Keesler drawing per diem, dependents of all other active-duty personnel, Defense Department employees, other

Please see **Facilities**, Page 15



# Moving on



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Matthew Alexander and his wife, Tanya, put candles as the finishing touches on their new coffee table after moving into their West Falcon housing unit. Before Hurricane Katrina, they lived in Pinehaven, which was flooded during the storm. As of Oct. 6, 198 housing residents have moved out, 177 have returned to their units and 134 have moved to new units.

# Facilities,

from Page 14

federal employees at Keesler and base contract personnel pay a la carte plus the surcharge.

## Banking

Keesler Federal Credit Union is open for limited service from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Keesler's branch is operating in an off-line mode, but can handle cash withdrawals, or checks, up to \$400 per person per day.

Since the branch is in an off-line mode, processing other requests, such as applying for loans, is limited. New accounts can be opened for base personnel and temporary tenants such as FEMA, MEMA and Red Cross.

## Gates

Oak Park Gate is open, 5:30-7:30 a.m. and 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, to help alleviate traffic due to the closure of Highway 90. The Pass Road and White Avenue and Meadows Drive gates are open around the clock. The Judge Sekul Gate is closed.

## Housing

The housing office in Chapel One is reassigning homes to families whose base housing is uninhabitable.

For a list of available off-base housing, call Mary Krystosek, 377-9741.

The office is the focal point for military housing residents to request portable storage units or labor assistance.

## Marina

The marina is now located in Building 6734, the enclosed pavilion in marina park.

Katrina Kantina, a lounge for E-5 and above, is in the main marina building.

For more information, call 377-3160.

## Pets

**Displaced pets** — about 12 pets are still in Alabama at Maxwell Air Force Base's Safe Pet Haven. Pets need to be picked up from there as soon as possible.

**Veterinary clinic** — 8 a.m. to noon, Mondays-Fridays, for over-the-counter sales.

For appointments to have pets vaccinated or for sick pets, call 377-6883.



# Katrina aftermath

## Operational readiness inspection canceled

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The 2006 Operational Readiness Inspection, scheduled for April 2006, has been canceled by the Air Education and Training Command inspector general.

The AETC IG office will notify the base one year before the base's next ORI to prepare.

The following are other events, annual campaigns, etc., that are taking place or have been postponed or cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina:

**Annual Combined Federal Campaign** — scheduled to kickoff Oct. 3, postponed; awaiting a decision from the United Way on possible limited campaign later in the year.

**Salute to the Military** — scheduled for Monday at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum, postponed, still awaiting decision on event.

**Intramural sports and other recreational activities** — Blake Fitness Center is open from 4:30 a.m. to midnight seven days a week. The Dragon and Triangle fitness centers are closed until further notice.

**Marina** — relocated to Building 6734, the enclosed pavilion in the park. RV and dry storage is available and rental equipment is being issued. No resale items are being offered and no fishing trips have been scheduled.

## Keesler hosts comedians, after-hurricane barbecue

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The base hosts a comic relief event today and a barbecue Friday for all personnel.

Operation Comic Relief features four adult comedians at 7 p.m. today behind the Fishbowl at the Triangle.

Military members, family members and Department of Defense civilians are invited to the free event.

Food and beverages are provided, and it is recommended that attendees bring blankets and lawn chairs. Bleachers may also be provided.

The comedians performing include **Craig Gass**, who has appeared on television shows Las Vegas and Law and Order, as well as several commercials; **Jim Florentine**, best known as the voice of "Special Ed" on Crank Yankers; **Reverend Bob Levy**, a frequent guest on the Howard Stern Show and **Keith Purnell**, who appeared in Dead Poet's Society.

The after Hurricane Katrina base barbecue is noon Friday at the new base marina, Building 6734.

A shuttle bus for students is provided, noon to 2 p.m. from Welch Auditorium and 4-6 p.m. back to the auditorium.

The barbecue features live entertainment, including blues, classic and rock band Rochamabeau; modern rock and roll band Illbreak and contemporary gospel artist Michael A. Smith.

There'll be free food, nonalcoholic beverages and pontoon boat rides. Alcoholic beverages will be sold and games and competitions are featured.

For more information, call 377-3160.

**Gaudé Lanes** — is open from 3-10 p.m., Monday-Friday and 5-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 12 lanes available and no special events.

**Youth activities center** — hosts Super Saturdays, 10

a.m. to 2 p.m. for ages 6 and older. Free snacks, table games, music, video games and other fun activities. No entry fee. Saturday, beach blanket bingo; Oct. 29, Halloween party with prizes for best costume. For more information, call 377-4116.

# Hurricane scams

## Watch out for fraudulent companies asking for 'donations' to help victims

### Legal office

Disasters bring out the best and worst in people. Many Americans are searching for ways to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina by donating time and money to relief efforts. Companies are contributing supplies and financial support.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports about 2,300 websites now advertise hurricane relief service.

Most of them are frauds. In addition, several scams are currently being employed to either steal personal information or donations.

Here are some helpful tips to consider when searching for ways to help victims of Hurricane Katrina:

**Donate** to recognized charities.

New "charities" may be frauds. Often, scam artists create "charities" that sound official or similar to familiar or nationally known organizations.

In addition, legitimate charities that sprung up overnight may lack the infrastructure to provide efficient assistance.

**Give** directly to charitable organizations, not the solicitors for the charities.

These solicitors take a portion of the donations to cover their costs.

**Research** charities before



you donate.

Find out the percentage of your donation that will actually be used to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Organizations offering incentives to donate, such as T-shirts or prizes, may use a significant percentage of donations to pay for these incentives.

In addition, organizations may not mark donations to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Your donation, or a portion of it, may find its way to other causes.

The Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance provides helpful information about charities at its Web site, <http://www.give.org>.

**Do not** give or send cash.

For security and tax record purposes, contribute by check or credit card.

**Do not** respond to e-mail solicitations for donations.

Most credible charities do not send e-mail solicitations.

One popular scam involves e-mail solicitations from entities claiming to be the Red Cross.

The e-mails contain links to Web pages that look identical to the official Red Cross site at <http://www.redcross.org>.

The Red Cross doesn't send e-mail solicitations for donations.

For more information on donating, go to the Federal Trade Commission's Guide to charitable donations website, <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/tmarkg/charity.htm>, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Guide, <http://www.fema.gov/press/2005/katrinadonations.shtml>.

The legal office is available to provide advice regarding charity scams, landlord tenant law, insurance law, bankruptcy law and a host of other legal issues.

Attorneys are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m.

The legal office is located on the second floor of the Levitow Building.

If you have been the victim of a charity scam, call 377-5434.



# KEESLER

## NOTES

### Preschool program

The part-day preschool program has openings for 3-5-year-olds in the 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. sessions.

Classes are Mondays through working Fridays at the youth center. They're suspended on federal holidays and during Christmas holiday closings observed by coast schools.

Enrollment is at the child development center.

The program fee is based on family income.

For more information, call 377-2211.

### KOSC activities

For information on Keesler Officers Spouses Club activities, call Michelle Harper, 365-8108.

# SPORTS AND RECREATION

## Keesler helps Air Force softball teams to championships

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

Two Keesler personnel recently helped both the Air Force men's and women's softball teams win their respective Armed Forces Championships.

William Hardy, 81st Training Wing, coached the women's team, and Joshua Wiggs, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, played for the men's team, which both won the championship game in their respective tournaments.

The Air Force men's team defeated Army, 15-12, Aug. 26 at Eglin Air Force Base,

Fla., in the championship game, its third victory over the Army in the tournament.

Air Force finished the triple-elimination tournament with a record of 7-2.

The Air Force women's team defeated the Army, 20-15, Sept. 7, at Peterson AFB, Colo.

The team's only loss — in their first game to Army — during the triple-elimination tournament, finishing with a record of 8-1.

The Air Force women's championship marks the third in four years with Hardy as the head coach.

The men's team also has earned the All-Armed Forces softball championship in three of the last four years.

Wiggs was named to the All-Armed Forces men's team after the tournament.

The team is comprised of the best players from each service's tournament teams, which went on to finish in second place in the men's national softball championship tournament, Sept. 15-18 at Sanford, Fla.

Wiggs' play in that tournament earned him All-American honors.



Hardy



Wiggs

### Outdoor work

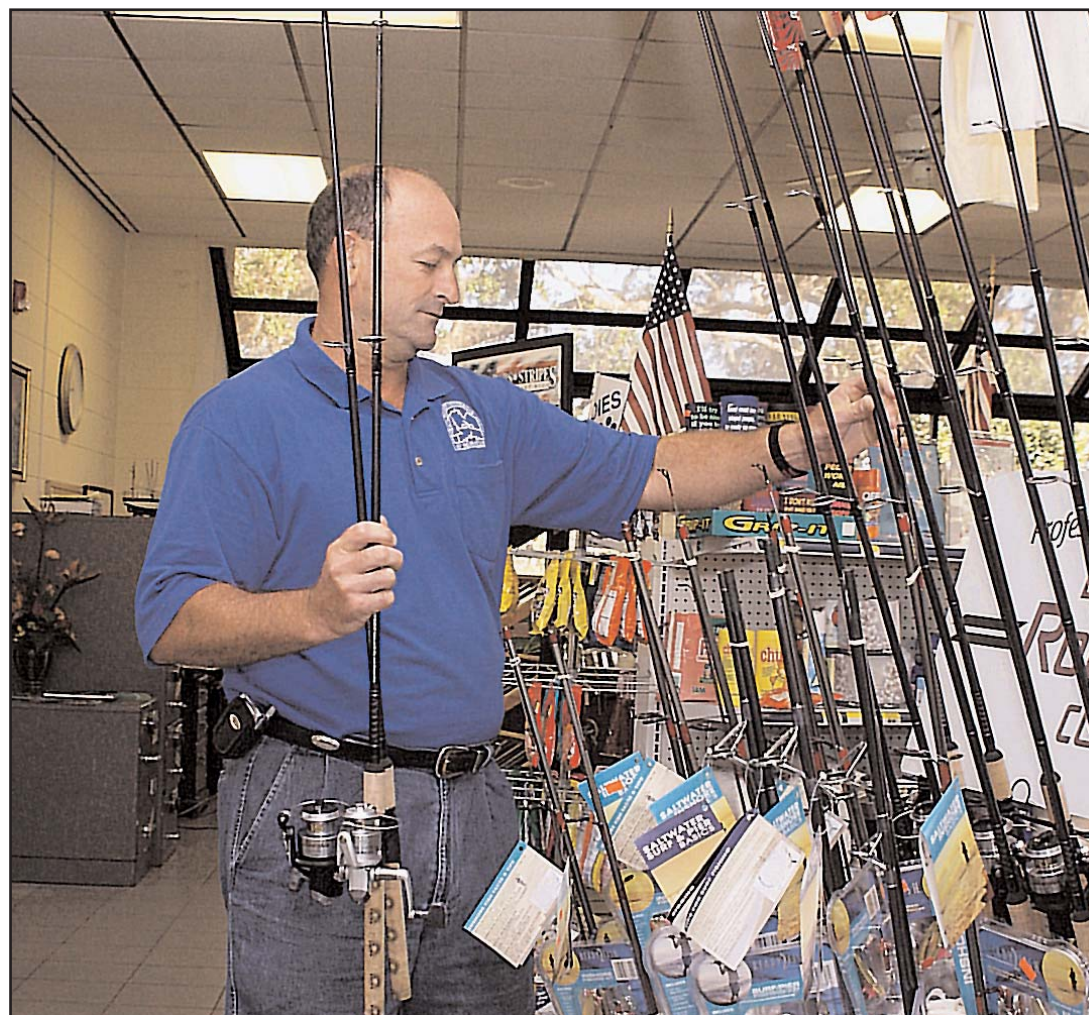


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Rick Randall, 81st Services Squadron, stocks fishing poles in the rod and reels section of the outdoor recreational center Tuesday. Outdoor recreation has relocated to the enclosed pavilion in the marina park, Building 6734. The previous location is now the Katrina Kantina.

## Air Force women take basketball championship

By Teri Reid

Naval Base Ventura County Public Affairs

The Air Force clinched its second consecutive gold medal in the Armed Forces Women's Basketball Championship Sept. 16.

The team earned the title with a decisive 80-33 victory over the Marine Corps in the tournament championship game.

The last game of the tournament between the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps teams took place at the Warfield Gym, Naval Base Ventura County, at Port Hueneme, Calif.

Air Force head coach Larry Glover credited his team members' longevity as a key to their win.

"This is a veteran club," he said. "For the previous eight years, most of the team played together with me as coach. This was the first year that a nucleus of veteran and new players got together. They bonded like a family and made my job a lot easier."

Glover is known as strict disciple of defense, so much so that the Air Force bench would occasionally chant "defense" to their team on the court.

It's no surprise he considered that another plus for the team.

"I had coached most of these players before, so they know I'm crazy about defense," he said. "They ran, they shared the ball, they knew the system. You couldn't ask for more outstanding players."

Six players from the Air Force's team were selected to the first-ever World Military Women's Basketball Championships.

They are Naomi Mobley, Mariela Miles, Crystal Tanner, Nicole Bowman, Lychale Jones and Jamila Hodges.

The staff for the Air Force women's team, including coaches Glover and Thomas Highsmith, as well as trainer Lynitta McCoy, were also invited to participate in the tournament, which began Monday and concludes today.



# DIGEST

## CLASSES

### Airman Leadership School

Classes haven’t resumed yet.

### First Term Airmen Center

Classes haven’t resumed yet.

### Keesler NCO Academy

Next class Nov. 7-Dec. 16 at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. No decision has been made about other classes at this time.

## PROMOTIONS

### 2005 Air Force Personnel Center boards

**Through Oct. 21** — chief master sergeant evaluation.  
**Oct. 25-27** — Air National Guard colonel, second session.  
**Nov. 14-18** — colonel, lieutenant colonel and major MC, DC.  
**Dec. 5-16** — major line, CHAP, JAG, BSC, MSC.

## TRANSITIONS

### Employment assistance

**National Reconnaissance Office** — advanced education opportunities offered through the fiscal 2006 Air Force Institute of Techology program. Twenty-three positions are offered to meet the NRO’s advanced academic degree needs starting in fall 2006; extremely competitive process for exceptional personnel. The NRO directly supports the undersecretary of the Air Force (space) and is a 100-percent selectively manned unit. After the degree is earned in the allotted time, candidates complete a four-year follow-on assignment in NRO space acquisition or operations. Most assignments in Washington, D.C., area. Applicants must meet AFIT eligibility requirements for academic average and Graduate Record Exam scores. Most personnel selected are non-rated captains and lieutenants. For more information and application requirements, call 1st Lt. Hanna Chang, 377-7018.

**International affairs specialist** — offers competitive officers at the mid-career opportunity to prepare for international political-military assignments to provide full career opportunity within their primary Air Force Specialty Code. Training begins in spring/summer 2006. Those who finish the two-program earn an advanced degree in specialties such as area studies, international affairs or national security studies., basic training in a specific language of their area of study, and possible advanced language training through in-country immersion. Officers must have at least seven years commissioned service and at least one year time on station as of June 1, 2006. Officers in medical,

## CHAPEL SERVICES

**Editor’s note:** This listing reflects changes to the worship schedule in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

### Roman Catholic

#### Sunday Mass

Larcher Chapel.....10 a.m.

#### Tagalog worship

5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, rosary; 5:45 p.m. Our Lady of Perpetual Help novena; 6 p.m. Mass, Our Lady of Fatima Church, 2090 Pass Road, Biloxi. For more information, call 388-3887.

### Protestant

#### Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.

Fishbowl student contemporary service.....10 a.m.

Larcher Chapel praise and worship service.....11:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....1 p.m.

### Islamic

**Building 2003** — for international students, temporary duty and permanent party; prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

### Jewish

**Beth Israel Synagogue** — was destroyed during the hurricane. The Jewish community has been authorized to hold Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) services in Larcher Chapel, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. today. Children’s service is 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today. For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Kalman Dubov, 377-4859.

### Latter-Day Saints

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints** — student group service, 4:30 p.m. Sundays, Fishbowl.

chaplain and judge advocate career fields aren’t considered. For more information, go to <https://www.my.af.mil/iaw/iaw>, or call Maj. Frank Swekosky, DSN 665-4071, or the IAS team, DSN 425-8349 or 8321.